

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application as amended is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 67 is typical of the pending claims and requires inter alia :

“a clothing article constructed and arranged to be worn on the body of said wearer, said clothing article including a panel; [and]
an electronic display incorporated into panel, said panel including said electronic display having fabric-like characteristics, said electronic display being formed of a base layer made of woven, non-woven or knitted fabric and a layer of a light emitting polymer...”

The advantage of this structure is that the resulting panel is very flexible and can be integrated into a garment or apparel.

The Examiner cites Fitch in combination with several other references for teaching an apparel with a flexible display. However, Fitch utilizes “multiple tiled micro LCD’s” (col. 1, line 57). There is no further explanation of what is the exact structure of this LCD screen. A typical LCD screen consists of two panes of glass with a liquid crystal encapsulated there between (see the three exhibits A, B, C describing typical LCD structures). Glass panes are inherently stiff materials which are capable of very little flexure. Fitch relies on providing multiple small (micro) LCD screens that are interconnected in a two dimensional array. Fitch further teaches the use of an additional LCD element (separated from the special multiplied tiled LCD’s) that is visible through an aperture 81 in a garment. In essence, then, Fitch teaches that the way to

make a flexible display is by taking a plurality of small display tiles and interconnect them or using a standard LED through an aperture a garment. The present invention has nothing to do with apertures in a garment and therefore this portion of Fitch has nothing to do with the invention.

The Examiner combines Fitch with Shanks and other references and argues that in combination these references obviate the claims. The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Shanks discloses a credit-card device. These types of devices are inherently stiff. Nowhere does Shanks disclose or suggest a display formed of a layer of fabric made of woven or non-woven material and a layer of a light emitting polymer. Therefore the issue is: what do the references Fitch and Shanks when taken as a whole suggest to a person skilled in the art? For this determination, it must be kept in mind that whatever combination is arrived at from the two references must be a reasonable combination that is not based on using the subject invention as blue print. Looking objectively at the references, it is clear that Fitch is trying to generate a flexible panel by using an array of tiny LCD's. Each small LCD consists of a liquid crystal entrapped between two glass layers. Shanks teaches a light emitting element having the stiffness of a credit card and formed of a stiff substrate, an LEP and protective layer. In other words, Shanks teaches a display element formed of an LEP trapped between two stiff layers. At best, the Shanks suggests to one skilled in the art that the small LCD's in Fitch can be replaced by tiny display elements formed of a stiff base, an LEP and a protective layer. There is nothing in either reference that suggests (A) replacing the

hard substrate of the small display elements with a woven or non-woven fabric; and (B) joining the display elements to form layers as defined in the claims.

Claims 62, 64 have been rejected Bruckner or Gerber in combination with Fitch. The Application respectfully traverses these rejections. Bruckner and Gerber disclose garments with lights. The two references fails to disclose a display panel incorporated into a garment and therefore they do not add anything to Fitch. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are not obvious in view of these references.

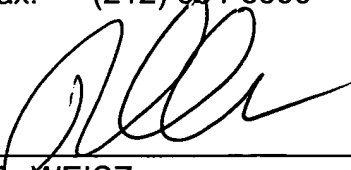
It is respectfully submitted that the subject application as amended hereinabove claims novel and non-obvious subject matter and is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to use Deposit Account No. 07-1730 for any fees that may be required including fees for extensions. This is a continuing request.

Dated:
New York, New York

Respectfully submitted,

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